

SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK  
COMPILATION OF SUPERINTENDENT'S DECISIONS  
**INTRODUCTION**

May, 2004

The regulations that provide for proper use and management of National Park Service areas are found in Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations. These Service wide regulations impose duties and restrictions on the Park Superintendent and staff, as well as visitors. The regulations also provide limited authority for the Superintendent to permit, limit, or prohibit certain activities. The decisions of the Superintendent must be published in a compilation and made available to the public.

Only the decisions made by the Shenandoah National Park Superintendent are published in this compilation. **Reviewers should read this document along with the parent regulations in Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations in order to understand the complete regulations.**

Some of the decisions in this compilation authorize or prohibit some activities. Others require a permit, and establish conditions for obtaining that permit. Each permit section lists a primary contact person. This person handles this permit activity for the Superintendent and it is recommended that applicants for permits start with that person. In most cases another contact is listed in the event the primary contact is unavailable.

The contacts are identified by position title. Here are the names and telephone numbers of the incumbents.

Position title	Incumbent	e-mail address	Telephone #
Superintendent	Douglas Morris	douglas_morris@nps.gov	540-999-3400
Deputy Superintendent	Trish Kicklighter	trish_kicklighter@nps.gov	540-999-3200
Chief of Maintenance (Acting)	Steve Herzog	steve_herzog@nps.gov	540-999-3452
Chief of Natural and Cultural Resources	Gary Somers	gary_somers@nps.gov	540-999-3491
Chief Ranger	Gordon Wissinger	gordon_wissinger@nps.gov	540-999-3401
Deputy Chief Ranger	Clayton Jordan	clayton_jordan@nps.gov	540-999-3201
Management Assistant	Karen Beck-Herzog	Karen_beck-herzog@nps.gov	540-999-3300
Back-country and Wilderness Program manager	Steve Bair	steve_bair@nps.gov	540-999-3141
Fee Program manager	Linda Green	linda_green@nps.gov	540-999-3405

In some cases these decisions refer to Park maps. These maps, published by the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club, are posted in the lobby of the Park Headquarters. Copies are also available for inspection or purchase at Park Visitor Centers and entrance stations. Copies may also be purchased by mail from the Shenandoah Natural History Association at the Headquarters address below.

The Park Headquarters is located at 3655 U.S. Highway 211 East, Luray, Virginia 22835. This office is open during normal business hours.

The general information telephone number is 540-999-3500. The 24-hour number for law enforcement and emergency service assistance is 1-800-732-0911.

Douglas Morris /S/

May 18, 2004

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Douglas K. Morris  
Superintendent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK  
COMPILATION OF SUPERINTENDENT'S DECISIONS  
**CAMPING IN DEVELOPED AREAS**

Regulatory Authority: 36 Code of Federal Regulations 2.10 and 1.5 unless otherwise noted.

May, 2004

### 1. PERMITTED AND PROHIBITED AREAS

Developed area camping is permitted and encouraged in campgrounds accessible by vehicle from Skyline Drive. These are: Mathews Arm Campground, Big Meadows Campground, Lewis Mountain Campground and Loft Mountain Campground. Dundo Campground is also accessible from Skyline Drive. Dundo's use is reserved for organized groups.

Camping in all these areas is permitted only in established campsites and pursuant to the reservation or registration system in place at each facility.

Camping elsewhere in developed areas including Skyline Drive and its overlooks, road shoulders, access roads, and in wooded areas within 1/4 mile of Skyline Drive is prohibited. See the definition of *Developed Area* below.

Justification: The high level of demand for camping near Skyline Drive requires facilities to limit impacts on the natural resource and to limit conflicts with other users.

### 2. CLOSURES

During low visitation periods some or all of the campgrounds may be closed to camping. This is indicated by posting signs at the entrance stations and on the access road to the campgrounds. Access roads are also gated or chained off to deny access to the area. Camping in the campgrounds during these times is prohibited.

Justification: Camping in these areas when trash collection, toilet facilities, and dish-washing facilities are not available results in unreasonable impacts upon the areas.

### 3. REQUIREMENTS

- **Size Of Camping Party**  
The number of persons permitted to use one camping site is limited to 6. Parties of 7 or more may use multiple sites to accommodate their group.
- **Length Of Stay**  
The maximum consecutive stay at any one campground is 14 nights. Campers may move to another campground, or return to the same campground after a break of at least one night.
- **Site Reservations**  
Campsites at Big Meadows campground may be reserved by use of the reservation system when it is operating. At other times Big Meadows campground is managed on a first come - first served basis. All other campgrounds are always managed on a first come - first served basis. Sites in all other campgrounds may not be reserved or "held" for later arriving parties by any method.
- **Timeliness Of Payment**  
Camping fees must be paid within one hour of a camper occupying a site.
- **Accessible Sites**  
Each campground has one or more sites with special facilities for the mobility impaired. These sites will be held for such visitors until they are the last sites available in the campground. They will then be occupied consistent with general procedures, on a first come-first served basis.

Failing to comply with these requirements is prohibited.

Justification: Providing the greatest good for the greatest number of people requires a system for managing use. Group size limits reduces impacts on the resource at sites. Proscribing reserved sites at first come-first served locations provides the greatest opportunity for most visitors. Similarly, procedures for use of accessible sites provide reasonable accommodation along with equity to all users. Timely payment for sites ensures fiscal accountability and use monitoring.

#### 4. USE OF GENERATORS

Generators may be used in developed campgrounds between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. The use of generators at all other locations and times is prohibited.

Justification: Park visitors have complained that the noise made by generators in campgrounds is a significant disturbance to the peaceful park setting. Typically this conflict is between recreation vehicle users insulated from the noise of generators and tent campers whose thin walled homes provide no sound protection. This measure provides a reasonable opportunity for generator advocates to charge batteries and perform essential functions.

#### 5. FOOD STORAGE

All areas of the park, including all developed campgrounds, are designated as areas where food, fish, garbage and equipment used to cook or store food must be:

- Kept in a vehicle or a camper unit constructed of non-pliable material, or
- Suspended in the air at least 10 feet above the ground and 4 feet horizontally from the post, tree or other object used.
- Stored within an agency-approved bear-proof storage container.\*

\*An NPS-approved bear-proof food storage container is a canister made of high-impact ABS plastic with stainless steel latches; the container lid is entirely flush with the body of the container and can be opened with a coin or a screwdriver.

Failing to store food in compliance with these requirements is prohibited.

Justification: Since the 1970's the Park has experienced incidents where bears damaged equipment in pursuit of food. This activity poses risks to people and the animals. Among the changes instituted to limit this risk was requiring food storage and sanitation which makes access by bears difficult. This strategy has been generally successful and will be continued.

#### 6. FIREWOOD COLLECTING

Dead and down firewood may be collected by Park visitors for use in campfires within the Park. The use of motorized equipment for this purpose is prohibited. Cutting down or otherwise damaging a standing tree, alive or dead, is prohibited. Transportation of firewood out of the Park is prohibited.

Justification: The collection and use of limited amounts of wood by manual means for use within the Park enhances the visitor experience. As this collection occurs around developed areas, the Park benefits by the removal of accumulations of fuels from areas typically protected from wildfire. However, disturbance of any natural resource must be carefully measured. The limits placed on this activity (hand collection and use only within the Park) protect the vast majority of dead and down trees in the Park as habitat.

Regulatory Authority: 36 Code of Federal Regulations 2.1 (a) (4)

#### 7. DEFINITIONS

**Developed areas** are those areas:

- a. Within 1/4 mile of Skyline Drive.
- b. Within 1/4 mile of any Campground, Lodge, Picnic Area, Restaurant, Rapidan Camp (previously called Camp Hoover) or any other developed facility.

**Non-developed areas** are all other Park areas including trails and wilderness areas. The terms *backcountry camping* and *non-developed area camping* are synonymous.

#### CROSS-REFERENCE

Camping in non-developed areas of the Park is covered by the *Camping in the Backcountry* section of this document

Contact for more information: Assistant Chief Ranger  
Chief Ranger  
Fee Program manager

SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK  
COMPILATION OF SUPERINTENDENT'S DECISIONS  
**CAMPING IN BACKCOUNTRY (NONDEVELOPED) AREAS**

Regulatory Authority: 36 Code of Federal Regulations 2.10 and 1.5

May, 2004

**1. A backcountry camping permit is required for all camping outside of the developed area campgrounds.**

The permit form used is the 10-404 Backcountry Camping Permit. Permits are available by mail or in person. Effective June 1, 2001 permits shall be issued only between the hours of sunrise and one hour before sunset at permit stations and may be available at some stations only during business hours, generally 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. during "peak use" season.

**Justification:** The Backcountry camping permit system is designed to help manage and protect park resources and visitor backcountry experiences.

Permits issued during evening and nighttime hours encourage unprepared campers to put themselves in unsafe situations while attempting to locate a suitable and legal campsite in darkness. In addition, poor campsite selection by late arrival campers has historically fostered violation of backcountry regulations and subsequent, negative resource impacts and visitor contacts.

Permits may be issued at Park entrance fee collection stations. Employee interaction with visitors at late hours and inside fee collection facilities creates an unacceptable security risk and interferes with scheduled closing operations. Therefore, "business" hours are established for backcountry camping permit issuance at contact stations.

\*Permits are required for camping in Appalachian Trail "huts" but not for "cabins" which are reserved in advance from the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club by the user. Camping in backcountry "day use shelters" is prohibited.

**2. Backcountry camping in the following areas is prohibited:**

1. Within an area signed as a "designated campsite zone" except in sites identified for camping;
2. Within 10 yards of a stream or other natural water source;
3. Within 20 yards of a park trail or fire road;
4. Within 50 yards of standing building ruins including stone foundations, chimneys, and log walls;
5. Within 50 yards of another camping party or a "no camping" post;
6. Within 100 yards of a hut, cabin, or day use shelter;
7. Within ¼ mile (440 yards) of any paved road, campground, or the park boundary;
8. Within the following six special closure areas:
  - a. Limberlost: the area bounded by the Skyline Drive, the Whiteoak Canyon Fire Road and the Skyland-Big Meadows Horse Trail.
  - b. Hawksbill Mountain Summit: the area of the mountain over 3,600 feet elevation above sea level;
  - c. Whiteoak Canyon: the area within the canyon on either side of the Whiteoak Canyon Trail between the Skyland-Big Meadows horse trail (upper falls) and the Cedar Run Link Trail;
  - d. Old Rag Mountain Summit: the area of the mountain over 2,800 feet elevation above sea level.
  - e. Big Meadow: the open meadow area visible from either the Skyline Drive or the Rapidan Fire Road.
  - f. Rapidan Camp (formerly Camp Hoover): the area within ½ mile from Camp Rapidan.

**Justification:** Campsite management is designed as a "dispersed concentration" system to minimize impacts to resource conditions and the backcountry visitor experience. Use of "pre-existing" campsites concentrates and minimizes camping impacts in "moderate- to high-use" backcountry areas. Use of "designated" campsites concentrates and minimizes the spread of impacts in specific "high-use" areas or at sensitive resource sites with potential for significant impacts. Some areas are "closed" to backcountry camping to preserve special resource conditions and values.

### 3. Group size is limited to 10 people.

Groups larger than 10 people must divide into smaller groups and obtain separate backcountry camping permits for each group.

**Justification:** A backcountry camping party group size of no larger than 10 individuals is a generally accepted "national standard" to minimize backcountry impacts associated with large group size. Larger groups, regardless of minimum-impact camping behavior and techniques, tend to have greater impacts on park resources. \*The separated groups must comply with "camping party" campsite requirements described below.

### 4. Campfires are prohibited except for at pre-constructed fireplaces at huts and shelters.

**Justification:** Backcountry campfires as constructed and maintained by most visitors are highly impacting to the resource. Use of campfires encourages removal of natural woody debris around the campsite which disturbs natural appearances and processes, causes heat damage to soil and vegetation, and promotes damage to or removal of live and dead standing trees. Use of campfires often leads to widespread construction of stone fire rings which are unnatural in appearance, concentrates visitor use and impacts by establishing campsites at inappropriate areas, and produces charcoal build-up in high-use areas. Campfires also contribute to human-caused wildland fires.

\*Use of self-contained stoves designed for backpacking use are permitted, including the natural fuels-burning "Sierra Zip Wood-Burning Stove." Charcoal grills are considered to be open fires and are specifically prohibited.

### 5. Food must be stored in one (or more) of the following three (3) ways so that wildlife cannot have access to it:

- a. hang food in a tree at least 10 feet above the ground and 4 feet horizontally from the tree trunk,
- b. hang food at a food storage pole provided at backcountry facilities, or
- c. store food within an agency-approved bear-proof storage container.

**Justification:** Proper food storage from wildlife discourages human impacts on wildlife behavior and reduces the possibility of property damage to camping equipment or injury to visitors and wildlife.

\*An NPS-approved bear-proof food storage container is a canister made of high-impact ABS plastic with stainless steel latches; the container lid is entirely flush with the body of the container and can be opened with a coin or a screwdriver.

### 6. Time Limits

Camping more than 2 consecutive nights in the same location or 14 consecutive nights in the backcountry is prohibited.

**Justification:** A two-night restriction on use of any specific site is intended to limit impacts caused by extended use. Identifies a time limit to deter the establishment of residence or long-term habitation on park land.

### 7. Disposal of waste.

If designated facilities are available, they must be used. If designated facilities are not provided, defecation within 20 yards of streams and other water sources, trails, or roads is prohibited. Solid human waste must be buried in a hole at least three (3) inches deep. All trash and refuse must be carried out of the backcountry and properly disposed of in appropriate refuse containers.

**Justification:** Solid human waste can spread disease and must be disposed of away from water sources to minimize the potential for pollution. Burying of solid waste at least three inches in soil minimizes the potential for washing of waste material into nearby water sources and eliminates the visual impact and odor of human waste. Carrying out refuse minimizes the presence of litter to enhance the visitor backcountry experience and protects wildlife from the impacts of discarded food and potentially hazardous trash.

## CROSS-REFERENCE

Camping in developed areas of the Park is covered by the *Camping in Developed Areas* section of this document

Contact for more information: Backcountry and Wilderness program manager

SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK  
COMPILATION OF SUPERINTENDENT'S DECISIONS  
**FISHING**

Regulatory Authority: 36 Code of Federal Regulations 2.3

May, 2004

### 1. APPLICABILITY OF STATE LAW

Non-conflicting State laws and regulations are assimilated. Further information may be obtained from the fishing rules and regulations available at all locations where State Fishing Licenses are sold and from the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries.

a. Licenses

All residents 16 and older fishing in the Park must possess a valid Virginia State Fishing License. All non-residents 12 and older fishing in the Park must possess a valid Virginia State Fishing License. No separate Park license is required.

b. Creel Limits

Since all waters within Shenandoah National Park are "special trout waters," as defined by Virginia law, the maximum creel limit for trout is six (6) fish. Other State creel limits apply for other species of game fish.

c. Hooks and Lures

Only a single hook (barbed or barbless) artificial lure may be used.

d. Baits

All streams and waters are closed to the possession or use of organic bait including but not limited to corn, cheese, dough compounds, worms, insects, live or dead minnows, amphibians, preserved or non-preserved fish eggs, and synthetic or chemical compounds including pheromones, other liquid scents, and power baits.

e. Season

Fishing is allowed all year on streams designated as open for harvest or for catch-and-release recreational fishing. Fishing is prohibited at all times on all streams designated as closed, including all their tributaries.

f. Size Limits

Where harvesting fish is permitted, a nine- (9) inch minimum length is required for all trout kept. Other State size limits apply to other species of fish.

Justifications: The mountain streams within Shenandoah National Park provide critical, protected habitat for one of the few remaining large and nearly pure native brook trout fisheries in the eastern United States. Long-term protection of this species requires careful study and limits upon human activities that impact the fish and its environment. The use of baits is known to increase ingestion related hooking mortality that could adversely impact trout populations within individual streams. Furthermore, the use of live minnows from legal, external sources may introduce exotic species into Park waters causing unpredictable long-term effects to the aquatic environment.

### 2. STREAMS CLOSED TO ALL FISHING

The following streams are closed to all fishing:

Dry Run, North Fork	One Mile Run.
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Justification: These streams are the Park's designated long-term research streams and must remain closed so as not to jeopardize ongoing research and monitoring efforts.

### 3. STREAMS OPEN TO CATCH-AND-RELEASE FISHING AND TO HARVEST

Jeremy's Run	Hogcamp Branch	Rocky Mountain Run
Piney River	Naked Creek, East	Doyles River
Thornton River, North Fork	Naked Creek, West	Ivy Creek
Thornton River, South Fork	Pass Run	Madison Run
Brokenback Run	Rose River	Conway River
Cedar Run	South River	
Hawksbill Creek, East	White Oak Canyon Run	
Hawksbill Creek, Little	Big Run	
Hughes River	Epbert Hollow	

Justification: Research and periodic monitoring indicate that these streams contain relatively stable brook trout populations capable of supporting recreational fishing harvest.

#### **4. STREAMS CLOSED TO HARVEST BUT OPEN TO CATCH-AND RELEASE FISHING**

All other streams, including their tributaries, are open all year to catch-and-release recreational fishing. All catch-and-release fishing activities done on streams open for such use shall be governed by applicable Federal regulation (36 CFR 2.3) and applicable, non-conflicting State law and regulation. Catch-and-release fishing, as defined by State regulation, is fishing where all fish caught are handled carefully and returned immediately to the water. No fish of any size may be retained or in possession on these streams.

Justification: Research and periodic monitoring indicate that trout populations in these streams fluctuate widely due to drought conditions, high flow events and typically poor habitat. Trout populations within many of the streams along the western slope in Augusta and southern Rockingham counties are under additional stresses due to generally more acidic water conditions associated with the dominate geologic substrata in that section of the Park. Trout populations within these streams are more susceptible to harvest impacts but will support catch-and-release fishing.

#### **5. TEMPORARY CLOSURES**

Some or all of the streams listed above may need to be closed in response to rapidly evolving environmental stressors such as drought or flood conditions and/or any event that results in water quality or habitat degradation. These closures will be implemented pursuant to 36 C.F.R. 1.5. Public Notice will be provided pursuant to the provisions of 36 C.F.R. 1.7

Contact for more information: Assistant Chief Ranger  
Chief Ranger  
Natural and Cultural Resources Division Chief

SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK  
COMPILATION OF SUPERINTENDENT'S DECISIONS  
**HUNTING, GATHERING, AND WEAPONS**

Regulatory Authority: See individual sections below

May, 2004

**1. PERMIT TO CARRY FIREARMS, TRAPS OR NETS**

Permits to carry or possess firearms, traps or nets within the Park may be issued upon written application to the Superintendent. The application may be in the form of a letter or may be specifically included in a specimen collection permit application covered elsewhere in this document. Permits will only be considered for the uses described in the Service wide regulations. Briefly, these are:

1. When necessary to support research activities.
2. When necessary for employees, agents or cooperators in performance of their duties.
3. When necessary for emergency use in connection with pack trains.

The permit, if issued, will be in the form of a letter. Possessing a weapon trap or net without a permit, or outside the terms of a permit, is prohibited.

Regulatory authority: 36 Code of Federal Regulations 2.4 (d)

**2. USE OF THE PARK FIREARMS RANGE**

This facility, located near Park Headquarters on State Route 211, may be used for official firearms training by NPS employees and authorized members of other law enforcement or natural resource conservation agencies. All other uses are prohibited.

The area of the firearms range, from the foot bridge over Pass Run to and including the mowed area and the wooded area within 250 feet on all sides of the range is closed to all visitor use, travel and activities.

Justification: NPS regulations require that law enforcement employees and others authorized to use firearms in performance of their official duties routinely practice and qualify with their approved weapons. These activities require the management of firearms instructors and compliance with strict safety policies. Use for other purposes is prohibited by Servicewide policies. The area around the firearms range is closed to all use and travel to protect visitors from firearms use.

Regulatory authority: 36 Code of Federal Regulations 2.4 (e) and 1.5

**3. USE OF ARTIFICIAL LIGHT TO VIEW WILDLIFE**

All areas within the Park are closed to the use of artificial light to view wildlife.

Justification:

1. Artificial light intrudes on the natural environment and may cause damage to wildlife if light is repeatedly shined in their eyes.
2. Persons unlawfully hunting within the Park frequently use artificial lights. The routine use of artificial light by others accustoms the wildlife to artificial light, reduces their fear and makes them easier targets for unlawful hunting.

Regulatory authority: 36 Code of Federal Regulations 2.2 (e)

**4. TRANSPORTING LEGALLY TAKEN WILDLIFE**

Lawfully taken and tagged and/or checked wildlife can be transported through the Park under the following circumstances:

1. By Special Use Permittees whose written permit specifically provides for the transportation of lawfully taken wildlife.
2. By Park residents to access their assigned quarters.
3. By hunters who accesses Virginia Game Commission lands from State roads via the lower Rapidan road.
4. Wildlife legally shot outside the Park sometimes runs into the Park before dying. Hunters encountering these circumstances may retrieve the animal after first notifying the Park communications center at the number listed in the introduction of this document. A Park law enforcement officer will be assigned to make arrangements with the hunter to retrieve the animal. Failure to follow these procedures is prohibited.



Justification: Possession of wildlife in the Park is generally a violation of Service wide regulations. These limited exceptions do not affect Park resources or materially interfere with enforcement efforts. They make reasonable accommodation to lawful activity outside the Park.  
Regulatory authority: 36 Code of Federal Regulations 2.2(d)

## **5. GATHERING FRUITS, NUTS AND BERRIES**

The following products may be collected within the Park in quantities suitable for personal consumption

Blackberries	Cherries	Hickory nuts
Strawberries	Huckleberries	Apples
Raspberries	Acorns	Mushrooms
Blueberries	Walnuts	

The collection of all other plant species or parts there-of is prohibited

Justification: Gathering of limited quantities of the fruits of these common plants enhances the visitor experience. This activity does not adversely affect the wildlife or other resources or the reproductive potential of the species. Taking of other plants, particularly when the entire plant is uprooted or removed harms the species and is prohibited by Service wide regulations.  
Regulatory authority: 36 Code of Federal Regulations 2.1 (c) (1)

Contact for more information: Assistant Chief Ranger  
Chief Ranger

SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK  
COMPILATION OF SUPERINTENDENT'S DECISIONS  
**HORSES AND PACK ANIMALS**

Regulatory Authority: 36 Code of Federal Regulations 2.16

July, 2000

Horse and pack animals may only be used on designated horse trails within the Park. Maps identifying pack animal and horse trails are available as indicated in the Introduction to this document. Trails, or portions thereof, where horse and pack animal use is permitted are identified by yellow paint blazes on trees. The use of horse and pack animals on blue and white blaze trails are prohibited. [Blue blazed trails are for foot travel only. White blazes identify the Appalachian Trail.] Riding or using pack animals off trail and/or cross-country is prohibited.

Unattended pack animals must be tethered to either Park supplied posts or to other sturdy trees or rocks. Hobbling horses or pack animals to permit free grazing is prohibited. Horse users should provide feed for their animals as damaging park vegetation is prohibited.

Horses and pack animals are prohibited in campgrounds.

Riding horses or leading pack animals along Skyline Drive is prohibited except for travel from one trail junction to another nearby trail junction.

Justification: Trails are designated for horse and pack animal use by the condition of tread surface. Trail use designation avoids conflict among visitor use activities and prevents damage to trails not built to withstand horse use. Requiring horses to travel on designated trails prevents damage to vegetation off trails.

The narrow nature of Skyline Drive makes travel by horse along the road shoulder dangerous to animal, rider and other visitors.

**DEFINITION:**

Horses, mules, burros and llamas are designated as pack animals for purposes of this regulation.

Contact for more information: Assistant Chief Ranger  
Chief Ranger

SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK  
COMPILATION OF SUPERINTENDENT'S DECISIONS  
**PETS**

Regulatory Authority: 36 Code of Federal Regulations 2.15 and 1.5

May, 2004

The following conditions are established for the possession and management of pets

**1. TRAILS CLOSED TO PETS**

The following trails are closed to the possession of pets:

Fox Hollow Nature Trail	Bearfence Mountain Trail
Traces Nature Trail	Frazier Discovery Trail
Limberlost Accessible Trail	Dark Hollow Falls Trail
Story of the Forest Nature Trail	The Ridge Trail (Old Rag Mountain)
Stony Man Nature Trail except that portion which follows the Appalachian Trail	The Saddle Trail (Old Rag Mountain)

**2. BUILDINGS CLOSED TO PETS**

All visitor centers, entrance stations, other public and government buildings, camp stores, restaurants, and lodging rooms are closed to the possession of pets, except assistance dogs such as "seeing eye" dogs or other service dogs trained and required to assist persons with a disability.

**3. CONDITIONS TO LEAVE PET UNATTENDED**

The following conditions are established for leaving a pet unattended and tied to an object. All other conditions are prohibited.

- a. **In campgrounds:** Pets may be tied to the campsite table or tethered in the campsite while owner/handler is generally present. However, pets may not be left unattended longer than one-half hour.
- b. **In vehicles:** If pets must be left inside a vehicle, windows must be open sufficiently for adequate ventilation, but to prevent escape of the animal. Dogs may not be tied to outside of vehicle or tethered in a parking lot.
- c. **In concession facilities:** The concessionaire's written and NPS approved policy of regulating pets in visitors rented rooms is incorporated by reference in this decision and will have the force of law when Park officers must intercede.
- d. **Along walkways in developed areas:** Pets may be in these areas as provided they are tethered for periods not to exceed one-half hour. Further provided they are tied in such a manner they cannot reach the walkway.

**4. PET EXCREMENT**

In developed areas all pet excrement must be immediately collected and disposed of in refuse containers by the pet owner. In non-developed areas pet excrement must be removed from trails, shelters, huts or other public use areas.

**5. POSSESSION OF PETS BY RESIDENT EMPLOYEES**

The possession of pets in employee quarters is governed by the Park Pet Policy as found in Policy Directive 90-10 (Revised 8/13/91). That document or superseding editions is incorporated in this document by reference. Violation of the terms of that Directive is prohibited.

Justifications: Pets have the potential to interfere with the safety of visitors and the natural resource and the enjoyment of others. Reasonable rules are necessary to provide for the well being of all. Similarly, pets may be endangered by wildlife, cars, or careless tethering if not properly restrained and managed. Some trails and facilities are unsuitable for pets because of the high volume of visitor use, or sanitation concerns. Particularly in campground and lodging areas, improperly controlled pets can cause conflicts between visitors

Contact for more information: Assistant Chief Ranger  
Chief Ranger

<p style="text-align: center;">SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK COMPILATION OF SUPERINTENDENT'S DECISIONS <b>MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS - RESOURCE PROTECTION, PUBLIC USE AND RECREATION</b></p> <p>Regulatory Authority: See individual listings below <span style="float: right;">May, 2004</span></p>	
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### 1. POWERLESS FLIGHT

The following sites are designated hang glider launch sites in Shenandoah National Park:

Dickey Ridge - (near Mile 6.3)

Hogback - (near Mile 20.5)

Miller's Head - (near Skyland)

Launching hang gliders at other locations in the Park is prohibited. Launching or landing other powerless flight craft at any location in the Park is prohibited.

Any person launching hang gliders from authorized locations must have a current Permit. The application form is the Park *Application for Hang gliding Permit*. Blank forms are available at Entrance Stations and Park Headquarters. It may be submitted in person or by mail to the Superintendent. The following information is required: Name, date, address, age, launch location, landing site location, rating of person, landowner's permission. Permits will only be issued to applicants who hold rating at Hang 3 rating (cliff launch, high altitude) or higher from the United States Hang Gliding Association or other recognized organization.

The fee for the permit is \$23.00 per calendar year.

Justification: These sites have been determined to be appropriate for this type activity without interfering with or creating a safety hazard with other Park recreational activities

Regulatory Authority: 36 CFR. 7.15 (c)

### 2. USE OF CHAINSAWS IN DEVELOPED AREAS

#### USE OF ANY MOTORIZED EQUIPMENT IN NON-DEVELOPED AREAS.

The operation of a chain saw in developed areas, and any motorized device in non-developed areas requires a permit. The following operations have permission to operate chain saws in developed areas:

1. Park, Concession and contractors working on authorized Park projects.
2. Employees who reside in the Park in the curtilage of their residence during daylight hours.

All other uses of chain saws in developed areas and motorized devices in non-developed areas require a permit. Application may be made to the Superintendent either verbally or in writing. The application should state the reasons for such use, the requested duration, type, and number of such machines, and alternatives considered. The permit, if issued will be in the form of verbal permission or a letter outlining the terms and conditions of the permit. Permission may also be granted to Park cooperators and their agents, such as the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club and its members, in the terms of their operating agreement.

Operation without a permit, or outside the terms of a permit, is prohibited.

Justification: Some operations cannot be accomplished safely or efficiently with hand tools. However, noise intrusions on non-developed areas and especially Wilderness areas must be strictly regulated.

Regulatory Authority: 36 CFR. 2.12 (2) and (3)

### 3. SNOWMOBILES

No snowmobile routes are designated within Shenandoah National Park. The use of snow machines is prohibited on all trails, roads (including Skyline Drive) and other areas within the Park.

Justification: The use of snow machines in undeveloped areas of the Park is inconsistent with Park objectives for managing natural resources and the visitor experience. The use of these machines on roads, including Skyline Drive, poses the risk of conflict between Park snow removal equipment and with other Park visitors. Further, Service wide regulations require that snowmobile routes be designated by special regulation. No routes have been so designated.

Regulatory Authority: 36 Code of Federal Regulations 2.18

#### **4. WINTER SPORTS LOCATIONS**

Skiing and sledding are permitted on any park trails or Administrative Roads where foot travel or horse travel is otherwise permitted. Visitors are cautioned that no locations are maintained for winter sports. Visitors should also be aware that snowplows and Park 4 wheel drive vehicles operate on otherwise closed roads.

#### **5. SKATING SKATEBOARDS, AND SIMILAR DEVICES**

No part of the Park is open to this activity by Park visitors. This activity is permitted within the various Park residential areas by resident employees and their families.

Justification: No visitor use area exists within the Park where skating can safely coincide with other uses. Resident families may safely engage in this activity within their curtilage.  
Regulatory Authority: 36 Code of Federal Regulations 2.20

#### **6. USE OR TRANSPORTATION OF EXPLOSIVES**

All such uses require a permit, issued in advance. Application should be made in writing specifying the following:

1. The approved Park project requiring the use of explosives.
2. Identified alternatives to their use.
3. The amount required for the total project and how much will be on hand at any time.
4. Transportation, storage and security provisions
5. State and Department of Transportation licensing
6. Liability insurance limits and copies of current policies.

Applications for transportation of explosives through the Park that is not linked to Park projects will not be approved. The permit, if issued, may require additional public safety actions. It will be in the form of a letter.

Justification: Some Park construction or repair projects cannot be accomplished without the use of explosives. Examples include rockslides which block public roads and which cannot be moved by any heavy equipment. However, as with all Park projects, the tool with the least impact on public safety and resource protection will be employed.

Regulatory Authority: Code of Federal Regulations 2.38

#### **7. PERMIT TO SALVAGE DOWNED AIRCRAFT**

A plan and permit is required to accomplish removal of aircraft wreckage from the Park. The application should be in the form of a letter to the Superintendent. The following information is required:

1. Anticipated method of removal
2. Dates of work;
3. Authorization of owner and/or insurance
4. Release by the Virginia State Police, National Transportation Safety Board, and the Federal Aviation Administration
5. What is to be left; reasons for leaving items; access points; etc.
6. Plans for removal and mitigation of biohazards and hazardous materials.
7. Plans for financial restitution of damages to Park resources and incident costs.
8. Other information may be required to protect employee, visitor, or resource safety in a particular incident.

Justification: Removal of wreckage from the Park needs to be accomplished safely, with the least possible damage to Park resources, and in a coordinated fashion.

Regulatory Authority: 36 Code of Federal Regulations 2.17

#### **8. PERMIT TO RESIDE IN THE PARK**

Residence in the Park may only be established in quarters assigned by the Park or the authorized concessionaire. The housing policies of the NPS, Park, and the ARAMARK Company are incorporated by reference in this document.

Failure to have a residence permit, or violation of the terms of a permit is prohibited.

Definition: Residing for purposes of this document means to establish domicile in the Park.

Justification: Residence in the Park is only permitted when such use is beneficial to the administration of the Park. The construction of quarters is limited and assignments are made on a priority system.

Regulatory authority: 36 Code of Federal Regulations 2.61

## **9. MEMORIALS, BURIALS, OR SCATTERING OF HUMAN ASHES**

A permit may be issued for scattering ashes at any location in the Park except for developed areas or into streams. No area in the Park is designated as open to scattering ashes without a permit. Burials and memorialization are only permitted in family cemeteries that existed before the Park was established and which continue as part of the land deeds. These burials will be permitted consistent with the Park's *Cemetery Maintenance and Use Plan* (#90-38).

Justification: A family's wish to scatter ashes in the Park is typically a testimony to the deceased's life long appreciation of and support for this Park. To the extent this activity does not harm the resources or conflict with the uses for which the Park was established it will generally be permitted. Burials and construction of memorials have a significant impact on the resource and will only be permitted consistent with existing legal rights.

Regulatory authority: 36 Code of Federal Regulations 2.62

Contact for more information: Management Assistant  
Assistant Chief Ranger  
Chief Ranger

SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK  
COMPILATION OF SUPERINTENDENT'S DECISIONS  
**SPECIAL EVENTS**

Regulatory Authority: 36 Code of Federal Regulations 2.50

May, 2004

Procedures for applying for a permit for a special event, such as a wedding, pageants, or ceremonies are described in the Service-wide regulations. Applications may be in the form of a letter or other document describing the proposed event and its effect on visitors and resources. The permit will be in the form of a NPS Special Use Permit.

Applicants should be aware that in most cases the Park charges a fee to consider and process an application. If a permit is issued the permittee may be required to reimburse the Park's costs of managing the event. The Park typically requires reimbursement for such event costs as overtime for Park staff monitoring the event. These costs will be described in the permit and will be discussed with the applicant during the review process.

Justification: By Service-wide definition, *special events* are activities which are not part of the Park's core mission but which are not incompatible with the mission. These activities will be permitted to the extent they do not interfere with visitor use or harm resources. Because these activities are not funded in the Park budget, the benefiting party will be required to pay the costs of the event. Events incompatible with the Park mission will not be permitted.

**CROSS-REFERENCE**

Service wide regulations distinguish special events from constitutionally protected free speech activities. For information on activities such as demonstrations, public assemblies and freedom of expression see *Public Assemblies and Meetings*.

Contact for more information: Management Assistant

**SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK  
COMPILATION OF SUPERINTENDENT'S DECISIONS  
PUBLIC ASSEMBLIES AND MEETINGS  
DISTRIBUTION OF PRINTED MATERIAL**

Regulatory Authority: 36 Code of Federal Regulations 2.51 and 2.52

May, 2004

Public assemblies, meetings, demonstrations, and the distribution of printed material are all First Amendment activities. Although covered by two sections of the Service wide regulations, the Park procedures for obtaining permits and establishing reasonable limits are the same for all of these activities. These local considerations supplement the Service wide procedures, considerations, and restrictions.

**LOCATIONS**

These areas offer the opportunity to express constitutionally protected views in areas of high public use. However, these sites may not be available if previously reserved for other uses or if unusual weather conditions, visitation patterns, or resource preservation needs exist.

Location	Capacity	Area Description
All Picnic Areas:	250 persons per location	Note: Up to one half of these areas are available for these activities. The remainder of the area will remain available for use by the general public.
Dickey Ridge Visitor Center	25 persons	Unpaved area east of the visitor center within 25 feet of the flag pole
Elkwallow Wayside	10 persons	The lawn area between the restroom building and the concession building.
Thornton Gap Entrance Station	25 persons	The grass area west of the fee booth, within 25 feet of the flagpole.
Park Headquarters	100 persons	The lawn area in front of the Headquarters Building between State Route 211 and the sidewalk to the Headquarters building.
Skyland	25 persons	The grass area West of the main doors of the Restaurant.
Big Meadows	50 persons	The grass area between Byrd Visitor Center and the Big Meadows Wayside building.
Loft Mountain Wayside	50 persons	The grass area between Skyline Drive and the North end of the Loft Mountain Wayside.

Note: The sidewalks and roadways adjacent to these areas are not part of the pre-established site. In some cases parking is very limited and car-pooling or shuttle restrictions may be necessary. Maps further describing these areas are available from the contact persons listed below.

Contact for more information: Management Assistant



SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK  
COMPILATION OF SUPERINTENDENT'S DECISIONS  
**COLLECTION OF RESEARCH SPECIMENS**

Regulatory Authority: Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations section 2.5

May, 2004

**PERMIT TO COLLECT SPECIMENS**

This section of the compilation addresses only the collection permit application and reporting procedures. Collection without a permit is prohibited by Service wide regulations and law. Collecting outside the terms and conditions of a permit is prohibited.

Applications must be made in writing to the Park Superintendent. The application must be in the form of a research proposal with defined benefits to management of the Park resources. In addition to the research proposal required by Service wide regulations, the applications should specify:

1. The name and address of the sponsoring institution.
2. The name of the principal investigator and all assistants.
3. Specimens to be collected and the quantity requested.
4. Location, times and procedures of collection.
5. Disposition of the specimens after the research need has been satisfied.
6. Changes in Park resources expected as a result of the research.
7. Alternatives to collection of Park resources which have been evaluated.
8. Mitigation activities considered.
9. Report time tables.
10. Identification of vehicles which will be used in the Park.

Further information including but not limited to scientific methodology and literature research may be required for complete consideration of the application.

The permit, if issued, will be an NPS standardized NPS research and collection permit. The permit will limit activities to those required for purposes of the research. All researchers should carry a copy of the permit with them when conducting research activities and present the permit to authorized persons upon request.

Justification: Any collection of Park resources has the potential to damage the natural systems. Conversely, research is needed to properly protect resources. Information on the proposed activities, alternatives, costs, and benefits is required to make sound decisions.

Note: All research permits issued will include a requirement for an annual report of findings. Permittees who do not comply with this requirement will not receive consideration for additional permits or renewals. If the permittee is 60 days in arrears filing their annual report such permit is suspended, without further action necessary, until the report is satisfactorily filed.

Contact for more information: Natural and Cultural Resources Division Chief  
Chief Ranger

SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK  
COMPILATION OF SUPERINTENDENT'S DECISIONS  
**USE OF ADMINISTRATIVE ROADS**

Regulatory Authority: 36 Code of Federal Regulations 1.5

May, 2004

Except as noted below, motor vehicle travel on Park administrative roads is prohibited. The travel authorized below is limited to the places and purposes specified. Other uses are prohibited.

### 1. ACCESS FOR DELIVERIES

Park employees, concessionaire, contractors, and authorized delivery vehicles when conducting assigned duties that require motor vehicle travel to these locations may use the following administrative roads.

Tanners Ridge	Old Rag Road to Whiteoak Cabin
Red Gate	Roads leading to wastewater treatment plants.
Rapidan between Big Meadows & Camp Hoover only	Roads leading to water sources and pumping stations.

Justification: These roads are not built or maintained for visitor use. Limited administrative use consistent with necessary Park operations is permitted to reduce fuel use within the Park and to provide maintenance access to Park facilities.

### 2. ACCESS TO RESIDENCES

The following Administrative Roads may be used by NPS and Concession employees to access work sites and residences.

- a. Tanners Ridge
- b. Red Gate
- c. Madison Run
- d. Simmons Gap Road

Justification: This use reduces traffic on Skyline Drive and permits employees' egress to surrounding communities during periods of inclement weather.

### 3. ACCESS TO SPECIFIC WORK SITES OR INCIDENTS

Special Use Permittees, Cooperators such as Potomac Appalachian Trail Club volunteers, and Research Permittees may use other administrative roads. This use is limited to that required to accomplish the purposes of the permits or work agreements.

Justification: Some Permittees and cooperators require access to remote sites in the Park to accomplish the purposes of their permit. Examples include the Virginia State Police to maintain radio equipment, and researchers to gather data and maintain survey equipment. Where authorized in the permit, such use of administrative roads is authorized. However, this use is limited to that required to accomplish the purposes of the permit, work agreement or incident response.

### 4. DEFINITIONS

- *Administrative Road* A gravel or dirt road secured by locked gates but upon which officially approved motor vehicle traffic may travel.
- *Map References:* These roads are identified by name, and further identified by a symbol indicating "gate" on the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club maps for Shenandoah National Park. These maps are available for inspection as indicated in the Introduction of this document.

### 5. EXCLUSIONS

Skyline Drive and all asphalt access roads to visitor use facilities are public roads and are not Administrative Roads for purposes of this Compilation. However, these roads may be closed to motor vehicle travel during periods of inclement weather or emergent circumstances. See *Closures of Skyline Drive*.

Contact for more information: Assistant Chief Ranger  
Chief Ranger

SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK  
COMPILATION OF SUPERINTENDENT'S DECISIONS  
**CLOSURES OF SKYLINE DRIVE AND OTHER ROADS**

36 Code of Federal Regulations 1.5

May, 2004

**CLOSURE OF SKYLINE DRIVE DURING HUNTING SEASON**

Skyline Drive in the North District and the South District of the Park will be closed to vehicular traffic from sunset to 8:00 a.m. every day beginning one week prior to the State's hunting season until the last day of the big game hunting season in any county contiguous to the Park. The Skyline Drive in Central District will also be closed for the same hours from the day the last concessions Lodge closes for public use until the last day of the big game hunting season in any county contiguous to the Park.

Definitions: North District is that area between Route 340 in Front Royal and Route 211 near Luray, Virginia.

Central District is that area between Route 211 and Route 33

South District is that area between Route 33 near Elkton, Virginia and Interstate 64 (near Waynesboro, Virginia)

Justification: Unlawful hunting along Skyline Drive has a considerable impact on Park resources. Violators also fire weapons along the roadway posing a public risk. Closure of the Skyline Drive during these periods will limit this unlawful hunting and permit law enforcement resources to focus on other measure to protect the resources. Impact on lawful visitors is minimal. Visitors can park overnight along Skyline Drive for camping trips, hike in via boundary access areas, or hike along Skyline Drive.

**EMERGENCY CLOSURES OF SKYLINE DRIVE AND OTHER PARK ROADS**

Skyline Drive and other Park roads may need to be closed due to ice, snow, falling rock or other hazards. That decision will be made by authorized persons as defined in 36 C.F.R. 1.4. Gates with appropriate signing will be closed to deny access to the affected road area. Driving around these gates and/or signs is prohibited.

Justification: Skyline Drive and other Park roads are subject to extreme and changeable weather conditions. Public safety requires a rapid response and decision-making.

Contact for more information: Assistant Chief Ranger  
Chief Ranger

SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK  
COMPILATION OF SUPERINTENDENT'S DECISIONS  
**VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC SAFETY**

Regulatory Authority: See individual listings below

May, 2004

### 1. SPEED LIMITS

Unless listed below, the speed limits established in 36 Code of Federal Regulations 4.21 (a) (1) and (2) shall be observed. The following different maximum speed limits are established:

- Skyline Drive: 35 miles per hour.
- Big Meadows Access Roads from Skyline Drive to the entrances to the Campground and Lodge facilities: 30 miles per hour.
- Access Road into and around the Big Meadows Lodge: 20 miles per hour
- Within Big Meadows Campground: 10 miles per hour
- Administrative Roads: 20 miles per hour.
- Lewis Mountain Campground, Camp store & Picnic Area: 10 miles per hour
- All Skyland Lodge Access Roads: 20 miles per hour
- On Skyline Drive from .2 miles North of Loft Mountain Wayside to .1 miles South of that facility: 20 miles per hour
- The access road from Skyline Drive to the entrance to the Loft Mountain Campground: 20 miles per hour.
- Within Loft Mountain Campground: 10 mile per hour.
- Within Dundo Campground: 10 mile per hour
- On Southbound Skyline Drive from .1 mile North of the Rockfish Entrance to .1 miles South of that facility: 20 miles per hour.
- All administrative Roads: 20 miles per hour

Justification: Congress established that Skyline Drive's purpose is to provide a leisurely tour of the National Park. A safe and relaxing motoring experience is integral to the Park experience of all visitors. Safety factors associated with the design of the roadway and heavy wildlife populations mean that speeds in excess of 35 mph are unsafe. Speeding and other forms of rude driving behavior are inconsistent with the right of other visitors to enjoy the Park.

Administrative Roads are narrow and have limited sight distance. Speeds in excess of 20 mph are unsafe.

Foot traffic in heavy visitor use areas such as camp stores, campgrounds, and near entrance stations require a lower speed limit.

Regulatory authority: 36 Code of Federal Regulations 4.21

### 2. LOAD, WEIGHT, AND SIZE LIMITS AND PERMITS TO EXCEED NORMAL LIMITS

Vehicles that exceed the loads, weight or size limits specified below are prohibited from travel on Park roads without a permit, issued in advance.

- a. When vehicle or vehicle combination gross weight exceeds 40,000 lbs. between May 1 to November 30 (inclusive) of each year.
- b. When vehicle or vehicle combination gross weight exceeds 20,000 lbs. during the time period of December 1 to April 30 (inclusive) of each year.
- c. When road condition signing at the various entrances to Shenandoah National Park indicate weight restrictions which are *less* than the gross combined vehicle weight of vehicle being used.
- d. When size and/or length of vehicle requires special permit under state regulations.
- e. Travel through Mary's Rock Tunnel by vehicles over 13 feet in height or over 11 feet in width.

All such requests, other than emergency responses, should be in writing in advance. The application should state:

- a. The approved Park project which requires this type of equipment.
- b. Alternatives identified.
- c. Safety procedures for the protection of visitors, staff and resources
- d. Liability limits and copies of a current insurance policy

Generally, applicants should follow the following guidelines in their planning. These guidelines are in compliance with maximum load limits suggested by the Federal Highway Administration for travel on Skyline Drive. However, weather, road, route or other conditions may require lower limits or may permit higher limits.

<u>Single units</u>	<u>Gross vehicle weight (lbs.)</u>
2 axles	40,000
3 axles	48,000
4 axles	52,000
<u>Combination Units</u>	<u>Gross Vehicle Combination (lbs.)</u>
3 axles	57,000
4 axles	62,000
5 or more axles	66,000

Justification: Federal Highways Administration engineering studies indicate that these limits are required to preserve the roadways and to protect public safety.  
36 Code of Federal Regulations 4.11

### 3. BICYCLES

Bicycles may be used on any asphalt-paved roadway otherwise open to motor vehicle traffic. Bicycles may also be used on the gravel-paved Rapidan Road from Skyline Drive to the exit from the Big Meadows Utility area.  
Bicycle use is prohibited on all other trails and Administrative Roads.

Justification: This decision is consistent with Service wide regulations prohibiting bicycle use in non-developed zones and wilderness areas and generally permitting bicycle use on Park roads except where unsafe.  
Regulatory authority: 36 Code of Federal Regulations 4.30

### 4. HITCHHIKING

Hitchhiking is permitted under the following conditions:

1. To obtain transportation back to one's vehicle after hiking a Park trail.
2. To obtain assistance for disabled vehicles.

Hitchhiking is prohibited under all other conditions.

Justification: Many visitors underestimate the difficulty of Park trails or encounter unexpected weather conditions, leaving them unable to complete a planned hike back to their vehicle. In this event many visitors want the option to solicit a ride back to their vehicle. Others choose to wait for an available park employee to assist them. Soliciting a ride for short distances has been an accepted practice for many years without any complaint or history of problem.  
Regulatory authority: 36 Code of Federal Regulations 4.31

Contact for more information: Assistant Chief Ranger  
Chief Ranger  
Chief of Maintenance

SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK  
COMPILATION OF SUPERINTENDENT'S DECISIONS  
**AREAS CLOSED TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES**

Regulatory Authority: 36 Code of Federal Regulations 2.35 (a) (3)

May, 2004

The below listed public use areas or public facilities are closed to the consumption of alcoholic beverages and/or to the possession of a bottle, can or other receptacle containing an alcoholic beverage that is open, or has been opened, or whose seal is broken:

**a. Buildings and Facilities**

All Park and Concession operated buildings and facilities including administrative offices are closed to this activity **except**:

- 1] The homes and curtilage of Park resident employees.
- 2] The "tap rooms", restaurants and other facilities where the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages is permitted by business agreements and Concession contracts.
- 3] Lodging rooms, camping units and their curtilage.
- 4] Picnic shelters.

**b. Parking Areas and Open Spaces**

- a) All parking areas, pullouts and overlooks between milepost 0 on Skyline Drive (the Front Royal entrance) and mile post 4.
- b) Lower Rapidan Area, which includes:
  - The corridors on and within view of the Rapidan Fire road from the eastern boundary of the State Game Area to the Park boundary near Blakey Ridge.
  - The Rapidan River Trail
  - Along the Rapidan River from the eastern boundary of the State Game area to the Park boundary near Graves Mill.

All other Park areas are open to the reasonable and lawful consumption of alcoholic beverages.

Justification: Incidents of aberrant behavior related to the consumption of alcoholic beverages have been a serious problem in the closed areas. The consumption of an alcoholic beverage or the possession of an open container of an alcoholic beverage is inappropriate considering other uses of these areas and the purpose for which they were established.

Contact for more information: Assistant Chief Ranger  
Chief Ranger

SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK  
COMPILATION OF SUPERINTENDENT'S DECISIONS  
**TOBACCO USE**

Regulatory Authority: 36 Code of Federal Regulations 2.21

May, 2004

Smoking and the use of tobacco products are prohibited in all Park facilities operated by the National Park Service including visitor centers, offices, government vehicles, and entrance stations.

Smoking is prohibited in all Park facilities operated by the concessionaire with the limited exceptions outlined in the Tobacco Use Policies for the several concessions facilities. Briefly, the few areas where tobacco use is permitted in concession-operated facilities are:

- Overnight accommodations identified by placards as “smoking permitted”
- Portions of the alcohol serving “tap rooms” designated by placards as “smoking permitted.”
- Employee housing units occupied by one person, or by several individuals where all occupants consent to the conditions of tobacco use.

The Concessions tobacco use policies and the Park’s policy are incorporated into this document by reference. Copies are available from the contact persons identified below. Placards and notices identifying rooms and facilities as no smoking will also notify the public.

Incorporated Documents:

1. Shenandoah National Park Directive 90-12 *Tobacco Use Policy*.
2. Tobacco Use Policies for the all concession managed areas.

Justification: See the justification statements in the incorporated documents.

Contact for more information: Assistant Chief Ranger  
Chief Ranger